

**KERN COUNTY AIRPORTS**  
**2022 MEADOWS FIELD (BFL)**

**EMERGENCY TARMAC CONTINGENCY PLAN**

Meadows Field has prepared this Emergency Contingency Plan pursuant to the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, 49 U.S.C. §42301 (d)(2). Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Chuck Church at [churchc@co.kern.ca.us](mailto:churchc@co.kern.ca.us). Meadows Field is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because (1) it is a commercial airport and (2) this airport may be used by an air carrier described in USC 42301(a)(1) for diversions.

This plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, Meadows Field will:

- Provide for the deplanement of passengers
- Provide for the sharing of facilities and make gates available at the airport; and
- Provide a sterile area following excessive tarmac delays for passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP).

Meadows Field is a non-hub category III airport and as such, has facility constraints that limit our ability to accommodate diverted flights or maintain the airport's safe operation and strongly encourages aircraft operators to contact the airport at 661-747-4055 for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency. Specific facility constraints include the following:

- Airport owned, ADA approved portable loading ramps available for authorized provider use
  - 1 – For smaller jets and turboprop aircraft – sill height range of 48" to 74".
  - 1 – For aircraft from CRJ to the A320 aircraft – sill height range of 80" to 140".
- Four terminal jet bridges that have a sill range of 64" to 109".
- 1 – Ground level boarding area to the terminal.
- Limited on-sight personnel to assist in ground handling of diverted aircraft and passengers
- Limited SIDA ramp parking for multiple aircraft
- Limited Sterile area for holding of passengers

During diversion events Meadows Field issues NOTAMs regarding its ability to accommodate diverted flights to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the airport and its ability to serve the civil aviation needs of the public during irregular operations events.

## **Airport Information**

Name of Airport: Meadows Field (BFL)

Name and title of person preparing the plan: Chuck Church, Chief Operations Officer

Preparer contact number: (661) 391-1824

Preparer contact e-mail: churchc@kerncounty.com

Date of submission of plan: June 17, 2022

Airport Category: Non Hub

## **Contact Information**

Meadows Field Administrative offices are open from 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday, excluding some holidays and available in person or by phone at 661-747-1870. In the event of an after hour diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact the Airport's 24 hour security/police at 661-747-4055 to initiate assistance.

Meadows Field has arranged for the use of outside bus transportation which includes Get Bus, Kern County Sheriff and Kern County Fire in the event transportation of passengers from remote aircraft parking locations is needed, to the terminal. Meadows Field is currently using SkyWest for all routine airline terminal ground handling services. Meadows Field also has multiple FBOs on the field that may be of assistance for ground handling needs of diverted flights. Meadows Field highly recommends that outside airline companies contacts one of the above companies to establish advanced procedures for their ground handling services.

## **Plan to Provide for the Deplanement of Passengers Following Excessive Tarmac Delays**

Meadows Field does not own or operate, excluding the 2 ADA ramps listed above in facility constraints, any of the equipment needed to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft and is; therefore, unable on its own to provide for the deplanement of passengers. Additionally airport personnel are not trained to assist in the deplanement of passengers using equipment owned or operated by air carriers or contract service providers. However, we have requested that each airline, ground handler and FBO operation on the airport provide us with a list of the equipment and resources they have for deplaning passengers and contact information. We will provide this inventory and contact information to airlines as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

## **Plan to Provide for the Sharing of Facilities and Make Gates Available in an Emergency**

Meadows Field currently has 4 jet bridge gates and 1 ground boarding area gate. The jet bridges allow for a sill height range of 64" – 109" (CRJ200 – Boeing 737 or similar). Our ground boarding area, if

portable stairs are required, is limited to sill heights of 48" – 140" (Turboprop – A320 or similar). Although our ramp can accommodate multiple aircraft (871' x 451') at one time (numbers depend on size of aircrafts), additional overflow aircraft or other facility constraints as applicable will require the need to deplane passengers from remote parking locations.

The gates at Meadows Field are currently under preferential use gate leases, permits, or agreements to air carriers and are controlled by the airport. We will direct our air carrier users to make gates and other facilities available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate to the maximum extent practicable.

**Plan to Provide a Sterile Area for Passengers Who Have Not Cleared United States Customs and Border Protection**

Meadows Field does not have international passenger processing facilities. We will coordinate with Federal and local law enforcement officials to identify suitable areas and procedures for establishing a temporary sterile area into which international passengers on diverted aircraft who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection can be deplaned. Once these efforts are complete, we will coordinate with local CBP officials to develop procedures that will allow international passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection to be deplaned into these sterile areas to the extent practicable.

**Public Access to the Emergency Contingency Plan**

Meadows Field will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan through one or more of the following means:

- Posting in a conspicuous location on the airport website (<http://www.meadowsfield.com>)
- Providing notice of the availability of the plan on the airport's social media accounts.
- Posting signs in conspicuous locations in the terminals.
- Advertising the availability of the plan in local newspapers of record.